Shortage of technical staff for IA planes

†3189. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Indian Airlines aeroplanes have been grounded due to shortage of tools and technical staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to maintain the regular supply of tools and also to recruit the staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) No aircraft has been grounded due to shortage of tools and technical staff. However, 6 aircraft were grounded for scheduled checks and 4 aircraft were grounded due to non-availability of serviceable engines.

(c) There is no shortage of tools. In order to meet the future requirements of technical staff, Indian Airlines has been recruiting Senior Aircraft Maintenance Engineer Trainees, Aircraft Maintenance Engineer Trainees, Aircraft Technicians, Graduate Engineer Trainees, Dy. Engineer, Assistant Managers and other categories of technical staff by notifying vacancies at regular intervals.

Poor infrastructure facilities in flying institutes

3190. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pilot graduates from many of the flying clubs in India are trained on outdated technology and hence 40 per cent of them fail the flying test administered by private airlines;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the flying institutes across the country have Cessna 152 and Cessna 172 aircrafts on which students are trained and most of them do not even have simulators; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to enforce some rules for flying institutes so that they are forced to upgrade their infrastructure?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir. The pilots graduates from the flying clubs in India are trained as per the syllabus & standards prescribed by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). DGCA has not received any such information regarding failure in flying test from private airlines.

(b) Flying training across India is imparted on Cessna 152 and Cessna 172 aircraft for single engine training. Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) is also having multiengine King Air C-90 aircraft for advanced training. DGCA has alloted 12 simulators to various flying institutes across the country.

(c) The present rules effectively address the requirement for monitoring the activities of the flying training institutes. DGCA carries out safety oversight and surveillance inspection of these flying institutes annually, for issue or renewal of permission.

Working of Air India office at Delhi

3191. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the difficulties being faced by the passengers travelling by Air India in the City Office of Air India in Connaught Place, New Delhi;

(b) whether Government are also aware that a passenger has to wait for hours in the Air India Office even to reconfirm his booking;

(c) whether he is aware that in the Air India office only 4-5 counters work at a time in Delhi;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) what are the steps which will be taken in this regard;and

(f) the average number of passengers travelling daily by Air India from Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (e) Air India has a modern fully computerised booking office in Delhi. Passengers visiting the booking office for travel related services are required to take token numbers and are serviced by turn. There are sufficient numbers of staff and around 17 counters in Air India Delhi office to service the passengers. Besides, a